

Email to CVSP Task Force

From: Rose Marie Cleese, rcleese@earthlink.net

Please forward to all members of the Coyote Valley Specific Plan Task Force:

I am writing you today to ask that you seriously consider the Preferred Alternative for the Coyote Valley development plan sent to you in a letter on July 12th by a coalition of environmental groups.

I totally concur with their opinions and recommendations. I have been researching the Bay Area over the last few months for a book I'm authoring for an East Coast publisher, Walkabout Press, called Play Hard, Rest Easy: Northern California. As a third-generation Bay Areaan, I have been absolutely astounded at the beauty and wealth of wildlife of the many places I've explored for the first time. Just recently, I looked down upon Coyote Valley from the top of Mt. Hamilton and saw it in the context of its surroundings. The idea that any of the rural land that is left would become chock-full with industry, housing, and malls saddens me even more than it would have a year ago.

I am now so much more aware of what we lose when we urbanize new areas. To sacrifice this semi-rural corridor between already-developed San Jose and points south to suburban sprawl would be an irrevocable mistake. Please consider the permanent effects the actions you take on this matter will have on the land, people who live in the region, and the quality of life! For an example of short-sighted decision-making, all you need to do is take a look at the new office building rising out of the side of San Bruno Mountain to see what irreversible harm even one ill-conceived building can do to a landscape. The developers and local government totally squandered the opportunity to blend a building into the surroundings. You have the fate of an entire valley in your hands.

All I ask is you take the broad, far-seeing view, consider EVERYTHING, and act as wisely and responsibly as you possibly can. Several years ago, my elderly mother who had witnessed much change over her long life lamented

that "everything today is about money." In the long run, that really isn't what it's about.

Thank you.

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